Batticotta, Jaffna, Ceylon,
May 3d 1845

My Dear Br. Scudder,

Your letter in behalf of the "Soc. of Inq. on Missions" was received about two months since. I was very glad to see it. But no part of your communication interested me more than the remark, that you "hope to join the mission in a short time, & labor with them in the land of your birth". This is what we want, — & in hope of getting such returns, I shall be most happy to write occasionally to the Society. I am just now so burdened with labors, that I can give you only a hasty line. —

From what I know of our late, & greatly lamented, Br. Apthorp, I have no doubt but that he has fully communicated the facts which lie on the surface of heathen society. But there is a world of more recondite matter which has never been communicated, from which I may serve up a little from to time to time. Such things may be useful as exhibiting the condition of the Hindu mind, - a most important point to be gained by the Missionary candidate. I would recommend such enquiries to all who are looking to India as their field of labor, as only second in importance to the study of the language of the people to whom they go.

I regard the whole Tamil country as a most inviting field of labor. I say, a field of labor, for none who have not a heart to labor can long be interested in the service. Here, as everywhere else among fallen, unevangelised men, there is much hard work to be done. But I believe that the faithful laborer every where meets with encouraging success, - & instead of asking for a release from the service, could wish that he might be multiplied a thousand fold, that he might meet the calls he hears on every side, & secure the souls he sees being lost for want of more laborers.—

The wants of this mission at the present time are *most urgent*. We need *five men* to fill *vacancies* at Stations where much is being lost for want of them. Besides the general interests of our cause demands, most imperatively, an *extension of labor*. This I consider the result of *missionary progress* — & only what *progress* will *increasingly* demand. Is this cry not to be heeded?— Are we to look in vain for help?— I appeal to your Seminary — that venerable School of the Prophets. Is there no response?— I point you to wide & white fields, & ask you to come over & help us.

But I wd take my stand at the Cross; & under the eye of Him who hung thereon, wd. ask, will he not be pleased if some of you — yea, some of every class in the Seminary, shd come to *his service* in rescuing these perishing millions? — If this be His pleasure, will that land, which I love best of Earth's domains, suffer — will it want his blessing, because of this diversion of labor to the foreign field? —

When I read your remark, "We know of none who expect to go this year" — i.e. from your Seminary to the heathen, the spontaneous inquiry in my heart was, Is this by the direct'g love of Christ in the hearts of those young men, who "are strong" the equipped soldiers of C.?

~~Care of Mr. Joseph Lyon~~
~~2 Turnwheel Lane, Cannon-St.~~
~~London~~

Mr. W. W. Scudder
For Soc. of In. on Missions.
Theo. Seminary
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Rec. Aug 1845
Ans. Sept 24th 1845

My Dear Brother, it is as you say — a revival of the true Spirit of Christ is what is most needed! Were there more of the "constraining love of C." in the Chh. & in the Seminaries, there wd be less want of foreign missionaries.

With Chn. salutations to the Professors of the Seminary, & the Breth. of your Socy,

Yr. affectionate bro. in Christ,
H. R. Hoisington